THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) ICMR are taking appropriate action in the matter.

Steps for Eradication of Leprosy

3912. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of leprosy patients in the country;

(b) whether steps are being taken to eradicate leprosy;

(c) if so, the year by which leprosy is likely to be eradicated;

(d) the steps taken for the proper treatment, after treatment training and then rehabilitation of leprosy patients; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) It is estimated that there are about nine (9) lakhs leprosy patients in the country.

(b) and (c) Government of India have launched a National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) with the objective of elimination of leprosy by the year 2000 A.D. by reducing the incidence to less than 1 per 10000 population.

(d) and (e) Under NLEP antileprosy treatment, reconstructive surgery and deformity and ulcer care services are provided to all the leprosy patients free of cost. A Pilot Rehabilitation Project has been formulated which *inter-alia* envisages vocational training and initial one time financial support for those needing rehabilitation.

Financial Assistance to Medical conferences

3913. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and number of medical conferences of national and state level to whom financial assistance was given during the last three years;

(b) what is the total amount of assistance given in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have avaluated the utility of such conferences and such grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House

Closing Down the C.G.H.S. Dispensary at Inderpuri, New Delhi

3914. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have suddenly decided to close down the CGHS dispensary located at Inderpuri, New Delhi110012;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that it will cause great inconveniance and hardship to nummerous Central Government employees, their dependents and to the Central Government pensioners; and

(d) if so, whether Government will rescind their decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha

3915. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of irregularities have taken place in the Pre-Medical Admission Test Results of 1994 of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Savagram, District Wardha in Maharashtra which is financed by Government;

(b) whether a number of students and their parents have complained about the irregularities;